# OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CIGARETTE TAX



# WHY INCREASE CIGARETTE TAX?

88,000 Oklahoma kids (0-17) alive today will die prematurely of smoking related illnesses.<sup>1</sup>



## **INCREASING THE UNIT PRICE FOR CIGARETTES BY \$1.50 PER PACK WOULD:**

#### **REDUCE ADDICTION IN ADOLESCENTS**



## **INCREASE WORK PRODUCTIVITY**



Businesses lose more than \$156 million annually due to absenteeism related to smoking illness



Tobacco is responsible for **7,500 deaths** each year - more than AIDS, alcohol, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders and suicides combined

#### **REDUCE COST**



\$1.62 billion annually, including \$264 million

in Medicaid costs, for smoking related conditions <sup>3</sup>

#### **REDUCE TAXES**



Benefit Oklahoma households who pay \$899 annually in federal and state taxes to cover smoking related healthcare costs<sup>4</sup>

#### **IMPACT OF SMOKING IN OKLAHOMA**

Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death and disability in the State of Oklahoma.

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- Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The Toll of Tobacco in Oklahoma. Updated 9.25.15, available at: https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\_issues/toll\_us/oklahoma
- 2. Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. New Revenues, Public Health Benefit and Cost Saving from a \$1.50 Cigarette Tax Increase in Oklahoma. Updated 1.9.17, available at: <a href="http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0386.pdf">http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0386.pdf</a>
- 3. Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. OK Tax Increase Benefits. Updated 1.27.17, available at: <a href="https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\_issues/toll\_us/oklahoma">https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\_issues/toll\_us/oklahoma</a>
- Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The Toll of Tobacco in Oklahoma. Updated September 2015, available at: <a href="https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts">https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts</a> issues/toll us/oklahoma